A lion or a lamb?

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We've now hit the beginning of March, which reminds us of the saying that the month tends to begin and end in rather drastically different manners—a lion and lamb usually serving as its counterweights. For us, *at least from a weather perspective*, no real change in the weather has been observed, so we'll assume that the month's entry is more on the lamb side of things. So serene has the weather been, in fact, that it has allowed for some events out and about, as the always-anticipated San Francisco Beer Week just concluded yesterday. Spanning 10 days and essentially taking over the entire Bay Area, north to Santa Rosa, south to Santa Cruz, and east to Livermore, there are festivities and special releases no matter where you are. Last weekend, we were able to have some of Russian River's annual Pliny the Younger here locally…

…while on Thursday, we checked out a few new establishments in nearby Livermore during the annual release of Livermoron—a collaborative brew between five breweries in Livermore, with a portion of the proceeds going toward the Alameda County Community Food Bank…

…and finally on this past Saturday, during an outing into San Francisco and then Oakland, we took in a few more places that we hadn't visited in a decade—so long that each had changed hands and names. First, the Beer Hall in the former Mikkeller Bar space, and then Sante Adairius Oakland Arbor in the former Trappist Bar space…

Sac to the Future
On Tap
Tap 39 / Urban Roots Brewing & Smokehous
Guacamole
IPA - Imperial / 8.2% ABV / Sacramento, CA
Tap 34 / Urban Roots Brewing & Smokehouse
Adjacent
Scotch Ale / 10.5% ABV / Sacramento, CA
Tap 10 / Flatland / Destination Unknown
IPA - Sour / 6.5% ABV / 5 IBU / Elk Grove, CA
Tap 09 / Flatland / Long Road To Somewhere
IPA - Imperial / 8% ABV / 30 IBU / Elk Grove,
Tap 03 / Urban Roots Brewing & Smokehouse / EZ PZ
Pilsner - German / 5% ABV / Sacramento, CA
Dry hopped pilsner
Tap 01 / Urban Roots Brewing & Smokehouse / Like Riding a Bike
IPA - American / 6.2% ABV / Sacramento, CA
West Coast IPA
Tap CAN / Flatland / A Shot
Hard Seltzer

Given all of this talk about brews, it's only fitting that we would have a few beer-related tokens and medals in this upload, so here are the first two highlights…

ZUM 25 JÄHRIGEN JUBILÄUM DES DEUTSCHEN BRAUERBUNDES
GEWIDMET VON DER ALLGEMEINEN BRAUER- UND HOPFEN-ZEITUNG IN NÜRNBERG
J. CARL

GERMANY. Nürnberg. Brewing bronze Medal. Issued 1896 for the 25th anniversary of the German Brewers' Association. By Ludwig Christian Lauer in Nürnberg.

UNITED STATES. Valentin Blatz Brewery copper "Civil War" Cent Token. Issued 1863 as a store card for the Blatz Brewery in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. By Johann "John" Marr. NGC MS-62 Brown. (*token is more brown in hand, this lighter look is due to some glare from the holder*)

Also while in San Francisco this past Saturday, we paid a visit to SFMOMA and viewed *Quiet Beauty: Amy Sherald's American Art.* The work for which she is likely best known is her commissioned portrait of former First Lady, Michelle Obama…

Sherald developed her rather distinctive style in 2008, ever since depicting Black men, women, and children in a form of timeless Americana. Her style also uses gray for skin tone, *inspired by the limited palette of old black and white photography*, in an attempt to downplay the aspect of the subject's race and, instead, invite the viewer to see the subject's "inner life."

This leads to our next group of highlights, which contrast rather wildly in their depiction of Black individuals. In the first, Karl Goetz utilizes a fairly racialized and stereotypical style in conveying the occupying Black French colonial troops—a style that he relied rather heavily upon with respect to his depiction of Black figures, and especially during this time period…

Meanwhile, in this rare irregularly-shaped cast bronze medal from 2004, Mark Jamieson celebrates the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in a very well sculpted, lifelike manner—the complete opposite of the dehumanizing nature of Goetz's approach and overall message…

To finish, here are a few other highlights from this upload:

ITALY. Papal States. Pope Pius IX/Opening of the Albano-Ariccia Bridge bronze Medal. Issued 1854. By Giuseppe Bianchi & Niccolò Cerbara in Rome.

UNITED STATES. Christopher Columbus gilt bronze Medal. Struck 1893. World's Columbian Exposition. By Ferdinand Massonnet.

GREAT BRITAIN & NETHERLANDS. "Together" cast bronze Medal. Issued. By Theo van de Vathorst for the British Art Medal Society, and cast by the Bruining foundry in Haarlem.

For all of this upload's new items, please click **here** or on the banner art at the top of the page. We'll be back again in two weeks on St. Patrick's Day for another group of museum-quality art and historical medals…and maybe even a pot of gold. Or not.

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Pleasanton, Calif
+1 (717) 917-0047

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